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November 28, 2005

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Kevin J. Martin, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> St., S. W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service  
Administrator's Board of Directors  
CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Mr. Martin:

Pursuant to the Commission's Public Notice of October 3, 2005, DA 05-2648, Mark Twain Communications Company would like to nominate R. Paul Waits for appointment as the member of the Board of Directors of the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC") representing competitive local exchange carriers. As a CLEC operating in rural Missouri, I would like to express my support for this nomination.

Mr. Waits is President of Ritter Communications Holdings, Inc. in Jonesboro, Arkansas where he is responsible for all communications businesses and business units affiliated with E. Ritter & Co., including its competitive local exchange carrier ("CLEC") operations. Mr. Waits has not only had extensive experience in operating telecommunications business, but also has been deeply involved in regulatory and policy issues both in industry positions and as a regulator and Joint Board staff member. This broad experience makes him exceptionally well qualified to provide guidance to USAC during a period of potentially significant change.

Please contact me with any questions regarding this nomination.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Rohde  
Exec. V.P. & Gen. Mgr.

Cc: RICA, Gail Raven  
FCC, Thomas Navin  
FCC, Marlene H. Dortch

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LIST ABOVE

Subsidiary of Mark Twain Rural Telephone Co.

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